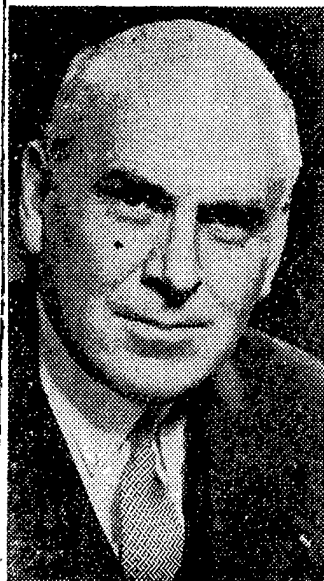


NEW YORK

## Elected to United Fruit Directorate



John J. McCloy



Gen. Walter Bedell Smith

Stockholders of the United Fruit Company at their annual meeting in Flemington, N. J., yesterday elected as directors John J. McCloy, chairman of the Chase Manhattan Bank, and Gen. Walter Bedell Smith, vice chairman of the American Machine and Foundry Company. Mr. McCloy is former United States High Commissioner for Germany and General Smith a former Under Secretary of State.

Kenneth H. Redmond, president of United Fruit, reported that first-quarter sales were about 10 per cent below last

year's period. However, barring unforeseen developments, banana shipments this year should equal and possibly exceed those of 1954, he said.

"The 1955 sugar crop was again restricted by the Cuban Government, and we cannot expect any material improvement in earnings from this branch of operations compared with a year ago, although production costs are somewhat lower," Mr. Redmond declared.

He said the fundamental strength of the company lay in its diversification and spread over a large area.